Development of roads in U.P.

3933. PROF. M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to develop the existing roads in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the effective measures being taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) and (b) National Highways in the State of Uttar Pradesh are being developed and maintained in a traffic worthy condition subject to availability of funds.

(c) and (d) Efforts are being made to provide adequate funds for development and maintenance of roads in Uttar Pradesh within available resources. In respect of National Highways, a sum of Rs. 120.00 crore for development and Rs. 41.79 crore for periodic maintenance of National Highways was allocated during the year 2001-2002. Nineteen Projects amounting to Rs. 156.41 crore have been sanctioned for improvement of various State roads being maintained by the State, from Central Road Fund during 2001-2002.

Allocation of funds for construction of State roads

3934. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have not been allocating funds to the State Governments for construction of State roads and major roads;

(b) if so, whether a large number of important State roads and major roads in various States are awaiting their expansion and maintenance etc., and the States are unable to do so due to funds paucity;

(c) if so, whether any plans have been made to declare more

State roads and major roads in the country as National Highways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS [MAJOR GENERAL (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI]: (a) and (b) The Central Government is primarily responsible for the development and maintenance of National Highways only. Development and maintenance of all State roads fall within the purview of the respective State Government. The Central Government however allocates funds from Central Road Fund for improvement of State roads as proposed by respective State Governments.

(c) and (d) During the Ninth Plan, 23814 km. of National Highways had been declared in various States. Further addition to the National Highway network would be considered based on proposals received from State Governments after the finalisation of the 10th Five Year Plan and availability of funds, keeping in view the revised criteria for declaration of new National Highways, traffic needs and *inter-se* priority.

Declaration of State Highways as National Highways

3935. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Highways, including the length, declared as National Highways so far since 1998-1999 in various States;

(b) whether the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and other Southern States have requested his Ministry to declare approximately 1100 Kilometer of roads as National Highways; and

(c) if so, the details of the projects and the action taken by the Ministry in this regard?